Why It Matters

Every ten years the United States conducts a census, or a count, of the population. Comparing data from different time periods is a good way to determine how the states and nation are changing. Census 2000 showed important shifts had taken place in Texas. Even in the midst of change, Texans find ways to preserve their rich cultural heritages.

The Impact Today

States use census numbers to draw the boundaries of electoral districts. Where the lines are drawn influences who will be elected to Congress, the state legislature, county commissioners courts, and city councils. Each census, therefore, has a direct political impact that lasts for 10 years.
Bluebonnet Field, by Julian Onderdonk. Texas possesses both a natural beauty and a rich multicultural heritage.
Main Idea
The United States census provides important information about population changes in Texas.

Key Terms
census
growth rate
etnicity

Reading Strategy
Identifying Connections Texas is developing global economic connections. Complete a chart like the one shown here by listing the countries related to each economic link.

Read to Learn
• how the population of Texas compares to the rest of the U.S. in ethnicity and age.
• about populated areas.
• about the future of Texas’s economy.

Section Theme
Continuity and Change Census results help to predict future needs in Texas.

Preview of Events
✦ 1790✦1850✦1994✦2000
First census in the U.S.
First U.S. census to include Texas
Texas becomes second most populous state
28 percent of Texas population under 18 years old

A Texas Story

When Michael Dell was a freshman at the University of Texas in 1984, he had already traded stamps and sold newspaper subscriptions. His attention turned to electronics. Instead of building computers to sell, he decided to sell computers first, then build them. He formed Dell Computer. The company soon had sales of over $2 billion with more than 4,800 employees. Census 2000 data showed that Williamson County was Texas’s second-fastest growing county in the 1990s. Dell Computer, located in Round Rock, is one reason.

The Census

Every 10 years the United States is required by the Constitution to count its people, or conduct a census. The first U.S. census was in 1790, but Texas was included for the first time in 1850. The writers of the U.S.
Constitution ordered the census to determine how many members each state could send to the U.S. House of Representatives. States with large populations send more members than do states with small populations. The census also provides information concerning how Texas and other states change. By comparing census data from various years, historians can note trends.

**Population**

In April 2000, census takers throughout Texas and the United States gathered information for the 22nd U.S. census. The data showed that in some ways Texas was similar to the rest of the United States, and in some ways it was different. According to the census, the population of the United States was 281,421,906. Texas’s population was 20,851,820, or about 7 percent of the U.S. population. In 1994 Texas passed New York to become the second most populous state. Only California has more people than Texas.

Texas grew by 3.8 million people in the 1990s. This was a 22 percent increase for the decade. The percentage increase in population is called the growth rate. A growth rate is positive if more people are born or move into the state than die or leave the state. Nevada had the highest growth rate in the nation, and Texas ranked eighth. The net increase in population meant that Texas gained two members in the U.S. House of Representatives. Because the number of representatives in the House is frozen at 435, this means that other states lost members.

**Ethnicity**

The census asked people to identify themselves by race and ethnicity (national or cultural heritage). The chart on this page compares the ethnic makeup of Texas and the United States.

The percentages do not add up to 100 percent because for the first time people answering the census were allowed to select more than one category, thus reflecting a multicultural heritage. Nationally, about 4 percent of the population claimed membership in more than one race or culture. Texans claimed mixed heritages at a much higher rate—almost 18 percent.

If you divide the population by the land area, you can determine how many people there are per square mile. In an interesting coincidence, the figures for Texas and the United States are the same. There are 79.6 people per square mile in both Texas and the United States as a whole.

**Where Do Texans Live?**

Census 2000 showed that 4 counties—Harris, Dallas, Tarrant, and Bexar—have populations greater than 1 million. The combined populations of those counties account for 40 percent of the state population. The next 4 largest counties in population are Travis, El Paso, Hidalgo, and Collin. The combined populations of the 8 most...
populous counties comprise 52 percent of the population of the state. Out of 254 counties in Texas, more than half of the population lives in only 8 of them. From these figures, it is easy to see that the population is not evenly distributed. In fact, 51 Texas counties have fewer than 5,000 people. Only 2 of these 51 counties—Kenedy and McMullen—are east of Interstate 35. The least populated county in Texas—and in the entire United States—is Loving County. It has a population of 67.

**The Growth Rate**

Population growth rate is one of the most important statistics learned from the census. City and county governments, school districts, the Texas Department of Transportation, health care providers, and businesspeople all need to know which areas are growing and which are not.

Census 2000 revealed that some areas are growing very rapidly. The greatest growth has been in the suburbs of Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, San Antonio, and Houston. Collin County, in the eastern part of the state, was the fastest growing of all Texas counties in the 1990s. It grew by 86 percent. Denton, Williamson, Fort Bend, and Montgomery Counties also experienced rapid growth, especially in suburban areas.

The U.S.–Mexican border areas also saw significant growth. The lower Rio Grande Valley and El Paso experienced increases in population primarily as a result of people moving there to take advantage of new business opportunities.

Other parts of the state experienced either population declines or flat growth rates. Those counties were mainly in the Lower Plains, High Plains, and western Edwards Plateau. Several mid-size cities such as Wichita Falls, Abilene, Beaumont, San Angelo, and Orange grew at rates less than the overall state growth rate.

**How Old Are Texans?**

The Texas population is younger than is the overall U.S. population. On April 1, 2000, 28.2 percent of Texans were under 18 years of age. The figure for the United States was 25.7 percent.
It is important for business, education, and government planners to know the age distribution of the population because older and younger populations need different services. For example, areas with a younger population need more elementary schools, baseball and soccer fields, and pediatricians. An older population usually requires more retirement homes, bus services, and medical facilities.

Knowing the age distribution in the workplace is important in planning for the future. If a large percentage of the workers are between the ages of 55 and 65, it is safe to predict that in the next 10 years companies will have to recruit new employees to take the place of people who retire.

Looking Ahead

Both an increase in population and an increase in the diversity of Texas’s population seem likely in the future. Population increases often follow strong economic conditions. Texas is large enough that economic downturns in one sector of the economy often can be offset by strengths in other areas. In addition, growing international trade can lead to increases in diversity. Because of Texas’s historical and cultural ties to Mexico, many Texans speak Spanish and are able to conduct business in Latin America. Texas’s petroleum heritage means that it has ties to the Middle East, Indonesia, and Africa. As trade increases to those areas of the world, Texans are certain to be involved.

Texas recently has recognized the importance of human resources in commerce and industry. Experience has shown that economic progress occurs when people of diverse cultural backgrounds share their talents and work together.
Main Idea
The diversity of Texas provides a rich artistic heritage.

Key Terms
folklore
los corridos
pictograph
petroglyph

Reading Strategy
Classifying Information  As you read this section, complete a chart like the one shown below, filling in names of artists for each art form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Art Form</th>
<th>Artist</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folklore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiction and poetry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read to Learn
• about different types of art.
• about famous Texans.
• how artists reflect their heritage and experiences in their creations.

Section Theme
Culture and Traditions  Whether factual or fictitious, realistic or abstract, the arts of Texas represent enormous diversity and beauty.

Preview of Events

1892
Elisabet Ney finishes life-size marble statue of Sam Houston

1926
“Blind” Lemon Jefferson records “Long Lonesome Blues”

1941
J. Frank Dobie’s The Longhorns is published

1991
Sandra Cisneros’s “Woman Hollering Creek” is published

Folklore
Texas’s ethnic diversity has created a rich literary and artistic heritage. Folklore, or stories told orally and passed down from generation to generation, is especially valuable in preserving the history and culture of Texas. Some of the stories are true, while others are fiction. Many are
legends, blending fact with fiction. These interesting stories might be told in verse, song, or ballad.

Many of these stories have been collected. J. Frank Dobie, probably the best known of Texas folklorists, collected and published a large number of folktales and legends from many cultural groups in Texas. Some of his books look at cowhands and ranching, including The Longhorns (1941) and The Voice of the Coyote (1949). Dobie once noted that the African American folklorist and historian J. Mason Brewer was “the best storyteller of [African American] folklore anywhere in America.” Brewer was born in Goliad County and moved to Austin. He recorded stories in The Word on the Brazos, and poetry in Heralding Dawn. African American poet Bernice Love Wiggins self-published Tuneful Tales in 1925.

Américo Paredes preserved much Mexican American folklore. He was most noted for his work on los corridos, or Mexican American folk ballads. Among his many publications is With His Pistol in His Hand, a study of Gregorio Cortéz, a heroic victim of injustice. Another folklorist and novelist was Jovita González de Mireles.

Historians have told the story of Texas many times and in many ways. Henderson Yoakum, who published his History of Texas in 1855, was one of the most knowledgeable early historians. Another widely read Texas historian was Anna Pennybacker, who wrote A New History of Texas for Schools. For many years students learned about Texas through her books.

Some historians have written about particular periods, regions, and topics. Herbert E. Bolton, Carlos Castañeda (kahs•tah•NYAY•dah), and Charles W. Hackett are remembered for their works about the Spanish period in the history of Texas. Eugene Barker has told in heroic style the story of the Austins, colonization, and the Texas Revolution. Ralph Steen and S.S. McKay wrote about Texas during the twentieth century.

The exciting and perilous adventures of the West have interested many historians. Among the many books about cowhands and the cattle industry are works by J. Evetts Haley, W.C.
Holden, Tom Lea, and Wayne Gard. Two of Walter Prescott Webb’s books, *The Texas Rangers* and *The Great Plains*, are considered classics. More recently, Rupert N. Richardson’s *Texas, The Lone Star State* and Robert A. Calvert’s *A History of Texas* have presented a comprehensive Texas history. Ruthe Winegarten’s books about Texas women include *Black Texas Women: 150 Years of Trial and Triumph*. Rupert N. Richardson’s *Texas, The Lone Star State* and Robert A. Calvert’s *A History of Texas* have presented a comprehensive Texas history. Ruthe Winegarten’s books about Texas women include *Black Texas Women: 150 Years of Trial and Triumph*.

Fiction and Poetry

Texans have used their talents to write memoirs, novels, short stories, and poems. Good writers often draw upon their personal experiences and observations. For example, Lionel García used his childhood experiences in San Diego in *I Can Hear the Cowbells Ring* (1994). Norma Cantú used family photographs to interpret life in Laredo in *Canícula: Snapshots of a Girlhood en la Frontera* (1997). William A. Owens in *This Stubborn Soil* writes about growing up in northeastern Texas. John Graves wrote *Goodbye to a River* (1960), telling about his adventures on the Brazos River.

The Texas experience has been portrayed in novels, too. Katherine Anne Porter of Indian Creek wrote fiction; some of her important short works are set in Central Texas. Rolando Hinojosa’s novels, including *The Valley* (1983), have received much praise. William Humphrey described a northeast Texas family in his novel *The Ordways* (1964). Larry McMurtry of Archer City wrote novels set in both the 1800s and the modern era. Many of McMurtry’s novels, such as *The Last Picture Show*, *Lonesome Dove*, and *Terms of Endearment*, have been made into successful motion pictures. James Michener’s novel *Texas* tells the Texas story from Spanish times to the present.


The Texas Poetry Society recognizes outstanding poets each year. Every two years, Texas selects a poet laureate, its most outstanding or representative poet. Many Texas poets have achieved distinction. Among them is John P. Sjolander, a Swedish American who has been called the “greatest pioneer poet of the Southwest.”

Another area of importance is children’s literature. Family, Mexican American culture, and the desert are all important themes for Pat Mora, a popular children’s author from El Paso. In 1998 she was one of the Texas Institute of Letters Award winners.

**Picturing History**

Novels can be rich sources of historical information. *Old Yeller* by Fred Gipson portrayed the dangers of the wild Texas frontier and the bravery of a pioneer family. The Disney studios produced a film based on the book. How are historical novels and films different from primary sources?

Old Yeller by Fred Gipson portrayed the dangers of the wild Texas frontier and the bravery of a pioneer family. The Disney studios produced a film based on the book. How are historical novels and films different from primary sources?

Examining Which of Larry McMurtry’s novels were made into motion pictures?
Theater, Film, and Television

Since the days of the Texas Republic, Texans have shown a special interest in the theater. Touring companies of performers visited the state, and many Texas cities had opera or theater houses by the late 1800s. Lon Morris College in Jacksonville became known as a training ground for Texans such as actors Sandy Duncan and Tommy Tune. Tune has received nine Tony Awards, Broadway’s highest honor. Theater departments across the state have been helped by donations from successful artists such as Bob Hope and Greer Garson, a Dallas resident.

Both amateur and professional theater groups have performed scripts by Texas playwrights. Preston Jones’s Texas Trilogy examined the confrontation between traditional values and the modern world. Horton Foote, from Wharton, became nationally recognized for plays such as Driving Miss Daisy and A Trip to Bountiful that drew their inspiration from Texas history.

Texas has produced many television and film celebrities. Debbie Allen and Patrick Swayze are both from Houston. Tommy Lee Jones, originally from San Saba County, is a Harvard graduate who captured starring roles in the films The Fugitive and Men In Black. Comedian Steve Martin hails from Waco, while Matthew McConaughey is a Longview native. Dallas was the birthplace of Aaron Spelling, one of the most successful television producers of all time. Spelling has a string of hit shows to his credit, including Charlie’s Angels and Beverly Hills 90210. Often these famous Texans donate their time to support special benefits and fundraisers for Texas causes.

Music

The music of Texas is the creation of many cultures. African Americans have contributed much to the music of the state, especially with spirituals and blues—an expressive and emotional African American folk music. Blues musicians “Blind” Lemon Jefferson and Huddie “Leadbelly” Ledbetter are African Americans...
who have greatly influenced music. They set the stage for jazz, an American music that blends African rhythms and scales and European harmony and instruments. Scott Joplin, born the son of a former slave in Cave Springs near Linden, became known as the “father of ragtime.” Joplin also wrote an opera and composed tunes that are still popular. His music was featured in the hit movie *The Sting*.

Country western is the most popular radio format in America today, with more than 2,600 stations playing country music. Texan Willie Nelson developed his talent while working at a Fort Worth radio station. His popularity helped lead a new explosion of interest in country music in the 1970s and 1980s. In the 1990s, Pearsall native George Strait was credited with taking country back “to its roots.”

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Some of Texas’s more familiar ballads and folk songs originated as well-known Mexican tunes. They were sung by artists like Lydia Mendoza, who was called “La Alondra de la Frontera,” the “Lark of the Border.” Today many Mexican American musicians play popular music known as **Tejano**, a sound that varies from country to pop. Performers such as Freddie Fender, Tish Hinojosa, and, more recently, Selena, David Lee Garza, and Los Chamacos have attracted the attention of the nation.

Texans have made important contributions to rock music as well. One of rock and roll music’s earliest stars was Buddy Holly of Lubbock. Janis Joplin’s “Me and Bobby McGee” rocketed her from Port Arthur to national fame. Roy Orbison of Wink, Texas, was a favorite of the “King of Rock and Roll”—Elvis Presley. Although not a Texan himself, Elvis got his start singing in Gladewater, Texas. Rock musician Don Henley, formerly of the Eagles, was awarded the National Endowment for the Humanities Award in 1997. The Linden native was recognized for his efforts to preserve the environment and promote knowledge and culture. Texas rock trio **ZZ Top** is best known for its roots in the “Texas blues” sound.

Classical music fans also have reason to be proud of their Texas heritage. Symphonies are found in major cities across the state. The Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas is one of the finest musical centers in the
nation. Here, Texans can enjoy, among other things, German and Czech compositions. Whatever the type of music, the performers draw on their Texas heritage to entertain.

**Artists of Texas**

The first artists of Texas were prehistoric people who left *pictographs* (ancient drawings or paintings on rock walls) and *petroglyphs* (rock carvings) on rocks and cave walls. Examples of these works are on view in the lower Pecos River region, near Hueco Tanks in far west Texas, along the Concho River near Paint Rock, and in other locations.

Europeans contributed their artistry in the days of the Spanish colonial era. Mission artists often blended Spanish and Native American patterns in their works. Mission buildings were decorated with carved figures and finely crafted windows and doors. *The Rose Window of Mission San José* in San Antonio is an outstanding example of mission artistry. Many historians credit Pedro Huizar with the carving. The Rose Window is considered one of the finest works of its kind in the United States.

Throughout history, talented artists painted Texas scenes. The Mexican painter José Sánchez y Tapia toured Texas in 1828. Two gifted German painters moved to Texas in the 1850s. They were Hermann Lungkwitz, who often painted landscapes and city scenes, and Friedrich Richard Petri, known for his paintings of Native Americans and rural scenes.

At about the same time, two French painters added their talents to the artwork of Texas. Eugenie Lavender braved life on the frontier in the 1850s and sometimes made her paints from the juices of Texas herbs and flowers. Theodore Gentilz (zhahn•TEELZ) lived in Castroville and San Antonio. His paintings are of San Antonio and of the Mexican people in the mid-1800s.

Later artists—H.A. McArdle, William H. Huddle, Robert Jenkins Onderdonk, Julian Onderdonk, and Frank Reaugh—made...
important contributions. McArdle gained fame for his mural-like paintings of historical scenes. *Dawn at the Alamo* and *Battle of San Jacinto* are just two of them. Huddle also painted historical scenes as well as portraits of important people in Texas history. His *Surrender of Santa Anna* hangs in the entrance hall of the Capitol at Austin. Mary Bonner was known as the “Texas Girl Etcher of Cowboys.” Chelo Amezcua used ballpoint pens to perfect her filigree art.

**Landscape Painters**

Although Robert J. Onderdonk painted portraits, both he and his son Julian are better known for their paintings of Texas landscapes. Another landscape artist, Frank Reaugh, depicted mostly ranch scenes and is known for his portrayals of longhorn cattle.

Porfirio Salinas has won national acclaim for his striking paintings of the Texas Hill Country, particularly for scenes featuring bluebonnets. José Cisneros of El Paso is noted for his numerous pen-and-ink illustrations of the borderlands. Works by talented African Americans such as John Thomas Biggers and Carroll Simms are on display in major galleries.

Georgia O’Keeffe was the first American woman painter to gain major recognition from art critics. She painted more than 50 watercolors while living in Canyon, Texas, in the early 1900s. She wrote about Texas at that time that “there was a quiet and an untouched feel to the country and I could work as I pleased.” The watercolors were the subjects of her first solo show in 1917.

**Sculpture**

Well-known sculptors such as Elisabet Ney (see page 436), Bonnie MacLeary, William McVey, and Charles Umlauf are linked to Texas. Two Italians, Pompeo Coppini (pohm•PAY•oh kop•PEE•nee) and Enrico Cerracchio (ehn•REE•koh cheh•RAH•kee•oh), have contributed many famous works. Coppini created the Littlefield Memorial in Austin and the Alamo Cenotaph in San Antonio’s Alamo Plaza. El Paso-born sculptor Luis Jiménez, Jr., is also known for his vibrant drawings. Other noted sculptors include Octavio Medellín, who was from Dallas, and James Surls. Born in Terrell, Surls is known for his wood carvings.

**SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT**

**Checking for Understanding**

1. **Using Key Terms** Use the key terms folklore, los corridos, pictograph, and petroglyph in sentences to demonstrate your understanding of the terms.

2. **Reviewing Facts** What is a poet laureate? How often is one chosen?

3. **Culture and Traditions** Throughout history, painters have depicted famous events, making important contributions to the historical record. What two paintings by H.A. McArdle commemorate historical events?

**Organizing to Learn**

4. **Charting Information** The music of Texas reflects many cultures and ethnic backgrounds. Create a chart like the one shown below and fill in the missing information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Music</th>
<th>Performer or Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ragtime, blues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock and roll, country western, orchestra, opera</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballads, folk songs, Tejano</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Critical Thinking**

5. **Evaluating** Choose one artist, musician, actor, or author mentioned in the chapter and tell how he or she has influenced you.

**TAKE'S PRACTICE**

**Identifying the Main Idea** Choose the statement below that best reflects the main idea of this section and explain why.

A. People from many different countries have influenced the music of Texas.

B. Cultural and ethnic diversity have enriched every art form in Texas.
Why Learn This Skill?

Writing is usually organized into paragraphs—groups of sentences that express one main idea. Well-written paragraphs help the reader more easily follow the writer's ideas.

Paragraphs take many forms. They can be long or short. Some are factual statements. Others are poetic descriptions. Effective paragraphs, however, usually share four common characteristics.

• Each paragraph expresses one main idea.
• The main idea can be stated in a topic sentence.
• The other sentences in the paragraph support the main idea.
• The sentences are clear, easy to read, and arranged in a logical order.

Learning the Skill

Here are some steps that you can follow in writing a paragraph:

• Identify the main idea of your paragraph and write it as a topic sentence.
• Choose details that support the main idea.
• Arrange the topic sentence and the details in a logical order.
• Add transition words to make the relationship between the sentences clear. Some useful transition words are: first, next, finally, before, after, but, therefore, however, also, for example, and because.

Practicing the Skill

Read the group of sentences in the next column about O. Henry's stories. Organize the sentences into a paragraph that has a topic sentence and supporting details. Add transition sentences if necessary.

1. The plan backfires because the boy is such a troublemaker that the bandits have to pay the father to take his son back!
2. Often, he wrote about the common people of the western frontier.
3. O. Henry's short stories were known for their interesting characters, humor, and surprise endings.
4. In his story, “The Ransom of Red Chief,” two bumbling bandits kidnap the young son of a wealthy man in order to get some ransom money.

William Sydney Porter
(O. Henry)
Main Idea
A wide variety of celebrations and festivals promote community pride and help Texans maintain their rich and diverse cultural heritage.

Key Term
reenactment

Reading Strategy
Identifying Regions As you read this section, complete a chart like the one shown below by identifying the area where each festival is celebrated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Festival</th>
<th>General Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cajun Festival</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buccaneer Days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose Festival</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read to Learn
• why celebrations and festivals take place and why they are important.
• about Texas festivals.

Section Theme
Culture and Traditions Texans’ lives are connected and enriched by a wide variety of events that celebrate their heritage and history.

Preview of Events

In 1832 Irish immigrants celebrated the completion of the road from San Patricio to Matamoros. Local resident Susanna O’Docharty wrote a poem about it.

“The Mexican and Irish were friends. Did we not meet the alcalde and the merchants of Matamoros? In 1832 and sing and dance beside a creek. Still named Banquete because we had a banquet there?”

Ethnic Celebrations
Throughout Texas history, people from different cultures have met and celebrated together. Spanish explorers and Native Americans often had feasts of thanksgiving and fellowship. Later Texans celebrated on religious holidays and at events connected with cattle roundups, sheep
shearings, and crop harvests. These traditions are honored throughout the state with rodeos and county fairs. These events are far more than just recreation. They contribute to the social and economic landscape of Texas as well. They promote community pride, encourage family interaction, and help maintain a rich and diverse cultural heritage.

Recent increases in population have brought increased diversity and ethnic pride as well. During the 1960s African Americans and Mexican Americans in Texas began to voice their pride in their heritage. People of other groups also began celebrating their past. One way they did this was to go to festivals. Many of these festivals had been celebrated for years. Others were new. Whether old or new, festivals had music, food, dance, art, and games. Through the 1990s, more and more people in Texas went to these festivals. Today, there are so many festivals that Texans celebrate a different one almost every week of the year.

Some of the celebrations, such as the Vietnamese holiday Tet or New Year’s Day on the Chinese calendar, reflect immigration from new lands. Others such as Cinco de Mayo, Diez y Seis de Septiembre, July 4, Juneteenth, Brenham’s Maifest, and Fredericksburg’s Oktoberfest long have been observed in Texas. Czech Texans have the Westfest at West, the Czhilispeil at Flatonia, and the Kolache Festival at Caldwell. German Texas is reflected in the Wurstfest at New Braunfels and Fredericksburg’s Easter fires. That particular event was inspired by the story of immigrant German children who were frightened by Native American campfires in the hills. Their mothers told them that the fires were being used to boil Easter eggs.

Irish heritage is emphasized on St. Patrick’s Day. Texans dress in green and march in parades. The towns of Dublin, in Erath County, and Shamrock, located in the Panhandle, hold major celebrations. Acadians (also referred to as Cajuns) have a French heritage and celebrate mainly in southeast Texas. A highlight of most Cajun festivals is a crawfish race. Cajun bands feature fiddles and accordions playing vigorous dance tunes. African Americans with French heritage have developed a truly unique musical style called zydeco that adapts everyday objects for use as musical instruments. A grand ethnic celebration is held on the grounds of the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio each summer.

**Reading Check** Evaluating What is the importance of traditional celebrations?

### Other Festivals

Festivals also celebrate an important crop or economic activity related to a community’s past. Tyler hosts a Rose Festival. Gilmer celebrates its
sweet potato harvest with a “Yamboree.” Athens has the Black-Eyed Pea Jamboree. Poteet residents put on a Strawberry Festival, and Luling is home to the Watermelon Thump. Brownsville has Charro Days. Both Dalhart and Stamford host reunions for cowhands who once worked on ranches in the area. Corpus Christi has its Buccaneer Days in late spring and its Bayfest in September. In early December, Galveston celebrates Dickens on the Strand.

Texas celebrates its musical heritage with a variety of events. Bob Wills, a bandleader of the 1930s and 1940s, grew up near the town of Turkey, so each year Turkey celebrates with a Bob Wills Reunion. Each summer at Palo Duro, visitors to the Canyon State Park can watch Texas, an outdoor musical drama by Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Green. Folk music and jazz festivals occur in several cities. In addition, Mexican American musical traditions are observed. For example, the conjunto, a musical style that relies on the accordion, drum, and bajo sexto, or 12-string guitar, remains popular.

**Historical Festivals and Celebrations**

Among Texas’s state holidays are Texas Independence Day (March 2), San Jacinto Day (April 21), Emancipation Day (June 19), and Lyndon Baines Johnson’s Birthday (August 27). In addition, many Texas cities organize celebrations around historic events and buildings. People who visit Jefferson during its celebration are taken back in time to the 1800s, when it was a thriving cotton port. Events of the Texas Revolution are commemorated with the “Come and Take It” Festival at Gonzales, a celebration in San Antonio at the Alamo, and ceremonies on the San Jacinto battleground in Houston.

**Importance of Celebrations**

There are two important conclusions we can draw from examining the hundreds of celebrations Texans hold each year. The first is that ethnic diversity is one of Texas’s most important strengths. The presence of so many celebrations shows that pride in one’s ethnic heritage does not prevent appreciation of other people’s cultures. Texans enjoy the music, food, and dance of many traditions and learning about other people’s ideas and values. When individuals from different cultures come together, they share the
CHAPTER 27 The Texas Heritage

Checking for Understanding

1. Using Key Terms Write a sentence using the term reenactment.

2. Reviewing Facts List three crop festivals that are held in Texas, and name the city or town in which each takes place.

Reviewing Themes

3. Culture and Traditions How are religious holidays, cattle roundups, sheep shearing, and harvests significant to communities?

Organizing to Learn

4. Identifying Locations The following festivals arrived in Texas with immigrants. Create a chart like the one shown below and identify the country of origin for each festival.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Festival</th>
<th>Country of Origin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinco de Mayo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wurstfest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Critical Thinking

5. Decision Making Choose a Texas festival or celebration that you would like to attend. Give at least two reasons for your interest in the event you select.

Drawing Inferences What other reasons, not mentioned in the text, might exist for cities and towns to host celebrations and fairs?

When this cartoon was drawn in 1977, Texas was 3rd in population. Today, the Census 2000 puts Texas in 2nd place, just behind California. The increase in population is partly because of immigration from Hispanic and Asian countries. Why do you think the cartoonist drew a look of surprise on the face of the smaller figure?
**Reviewing Key Terms**

Number your paper from 1 to 5. Next to each number, write the letter of the group of words that correctly defines the term.

1. growth rate  
2. folklore  
3. ethnicity  
4. petroglyph  
5. reenactment  
   a. a repeat of the actions of an earlier event  
   b. traditional customs, beliefs, or stories  
   c. national or cultural heritage  
   d. a carving on a stone  
   e. percentage by which the population increases

**Reviewing Key Facts**

6. Explain why the writers of the U.S. Constitution required a census every 10 years.  
7. According to Census 2000, which Texas county was the fastest growing? What was the growth rate (percent of growth)?  
8. According to Census 2000, what areas showed population declines or flat growth rates?  
9. What was storyteller O. Henry’s real name?  
10. Name two of the first people to write about their experiences in Texas.  
11. Identify the unique musical style developed by African Americans of French heritage.  
12. Name the musical style that relies on the accordion, drum, and 12-string guitar.

**Critical Thinking**

13. **Evaluating** Do you think the census should be taken every 10 years, as it is now, or at some other interval? Why?  
14. **Making Comparisons** In the past, people used folklore as a means of passing on history to their descendants. Does folklore serve the same purpose today? In what ways do people today pass on information?  
15. **Drawing Conclusions** Spirituals are often sung in churches even when there are no African American members. People with no African American heritage enjoy jazz, the blues, and ragtime. From these facts, what can you conclude about music’s place in society?  
16. **Explaining** How do celebrations serve the communities of Texas?
Geography and History Activity

17. Organize in groups of two or three. Discuss and list the celebrations attended by your group members in Texas and elsewhere. Categorize events by type, using the following headings: Ranching and Farming, From a Foreign Country, Historical, Related to the Arts. Note where and in what season these events occur. Create a database of your information to share with the class. Each member should recommend their favorite event and tell why. Your group may want to interview parents, relatives, neighbors, or visit the local chamber of commerce for information.

Building Technology Skills

18. Using the Internet or Library for Research Working alone, or with one partner, research the works of one writer, artist, or musician mentioned in Section 2. As you work, keep a record of bibliographic information and/or URLs. Prepare a written or multimedia report, complete with visuals. What does this person’s work tell about him/her? Why is this body of work important to society?

Practicing Skills

19. Writing a Paragraph Review the information in the Skillbuilder on page 607. Organize the sentences below into a paragraph that has a topic sentence, supporting details, and transition words, if necessary.

- a. Buddy Holly was born and raised in Lubbock, Texas.
- b. He recorded several hit songs including “Peggy Sue,” “That’ll Be the Day,” and “True Love Ways.”
- c. The plane was also carrying rock and roll stars Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper, who also died in the crash.
- d. Buddy Holly was a musician who made important contributions to the development of rock and roll.
- e. Holly’s career ended suddenly in a tragic plane crash.

Portfolio/TAKS Writing Activity

20. Literature and History Today, folktales and legends are found in children’s books. Which ones do you remember? What characteristics do they have in common? What value do these stories have for young children? Answer these questions in a three-paragraph essay, using standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation. Save this for your portfolio.

Economics and History Activity

21. Texas’s increasing population means the state sends more representatives to the U.S. Congress than it did in the past. Use the library or Internet to research other ways an increasing population may benefit the economy of a state.
Texans played an active role in the nation's history. Key military bases and defense-related industries were located in Texas. By the end of World War II, Texas was poised to become a major international force in economics, politics, and technology.

The AT-6 trainer plane was known as "the Texan" because it was built in Dallas. Many of the trainer planes were made of plywood because metal was scarce and needed for combat planes. The AT-6 flew at a speed of about 210 mph.

Visit The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin to see artifacts and exhibits such as these about Texas history and heritage.
First Mini Calculator  The first handheld calculator was invented at Texas Instruments. It could add, subtract, multiply, and divide.

First Artificial Heart  In 1969, Dr. Denton Cooley of the Texas Heart Institute implanted a completely artificial heart into a 47-year-old man. The artificial heart kept the patient alive for 64 hours until a real human heart was available for transplant.

Space Programs  Lunar modules, such as this one-third scale model built by NASA, landed 12 Americans on the moon between 1969 and 1972. The top part blasted off the moon to rejoin the command ship. The modules were developed at the Houston Space Center.

Moon Landing  This spacesuit—the A5L—was worn by Neil Armstrong early in the Apollo moon program. Armstrong eventually commanded the Apollo 11 mission that landed a man on the moon. The first word spoken from the moon was “Houston.”